

MEWASSIN AUTOMOTIVE LTD.
Rita Kause
RR1, Duffield, AB.
T0E 0N0


October 28, 2016

Standing Committee – Families and Communities

Dear Ms. Nicole Goehring - Chair

I own and operate an automotive repair facility and have been in business for 30 years. We are located south west of Stony Plain in a rural area. We are what you would call a mom and pop business. There is only a counter separating us from our customers and we do everything we can to provide them with superior work and extraordinary customer service. We have provided work for local people and have put numerous young men from our district through the automotive apprenticeship program. We have provided young people (including 3 grandchildren) in our district with summer jobs while they are attending university. Our image in our community is extremely important to us.

We have worked long and hard in our business and I feel that Bill 203 totally undermines everything that we have worked so hard to achieve.

I speak to you from my heart when I ask you to please reconsider Bill 203, a Private Members Bill, which is currently under review with the Standing Committee on Families and Communities. As a reputable repairer, I am always in favour of creating better industry standards that protect both the consumer as well as the automotive sector. However, I feel strongly that Bill 203, as currently written, would require significant amendments to achieve this. **That is why I ask you to carefully consider the Canadian Independent Automotive Association's (CIAA) position regarding Bill 203 as I support their recommendations.**

As you are aware, Alberta is the only province in Canada that utilizes a regulatory body such as AMVIC to regulate and mediate repair services under the Fair Trading Act. To operate an automotive business in Alberta you must hold a valid AMVIC license and abide by all regulations in order to not only maintain your license, but also to avoid facing penalties and even possible prosecution. We are extremely fortunate to have AMVIC, but I feel that Bill 203 will not only create conflict within the existing legislation but also place expectations clearly outside of the jurisdiction of AMVIC.

Please take some time to follow this link to the CIAA website, www.ciaassociation.org. This will outline more information and the suggested amendments from the Canadian Independent Automotive Association. If you feel that the suggested amendments as outlined by the CIAA are unachievable within the context of a Private Members Bill, then I respectfully request that your vote reflect the dissolution of Bill 203.

I sincerely believe upon further investigation that you will understand our concerns and reconsider supporting Bill 203 as it currently exists. There is definitely an opportunity here to work with the automotive industry to create stronger and effective consumer protection.

Thank you for your time. I invite you to please visit our facility at mewassinautomotive.ca. It would be a pleasure to meet and discuss my concerns in greater detail. I can be reached at 780-963-4061

Sincerely,
Rita Kause
Mewassin Automotive Ltd.

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Rita Kause
RR1, Duffield, AB.
T0E 0N0
mewassinrita@canadasurfs.net

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Standing Committee – Families and Communities

Dear Members of the Standing Committee Bill 203

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We have worked long and hard in our business and I feel that Bill 203 totally undermines everything that we have worked so hard to achieve.

It is with great concern that I write to you today regarding Bill 203, a Private Members Bill, which is currently under review with the Standing Committee on Families and Communities. As a reputable repairer, I am always in favour of creating better industry standards that protect both the consumer as well as the automotive sector. However, I feel strongly that Bill 203, as currently written, would require significant amendments to achieve this. **That is why I ask you to carefully consider the Canadian Independent Automotive Association's (CIAA) position regarding Bill 203 as I support their recommendations.**

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Sincerely,
Mel Kause
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